

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

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years was due to no fault on the part of the entryman but to some unavoidable delay in the construction of the irrigation works for which he was not responsible and could not have readily foreseen (37 L.D. 332). It must also appear that he has complied with the law as to annual expenditures and proof thereof.

§ 2522.4 Act of April 30, 1912.

(a) Under the provisions of the Act of April 30, 1912 (37 Stat. 106; 43 U.S.C. 334), a further extension of time may be granted for submitting final proof, not exceeding 3 years, where it is shown that, because of some unavoidable delay in the construction of irrigation works intended to convey water to the land embraced in his entry, the claimant is, without fault on his part, unable to make proof of the reclamation and cultivation of said lands within the time limited therefor, but such further extension cannot be granted for a period of more than 3 years nor affect contests initiated for a valid existing reason.

(b) An entryman who has complied with the law as to annual expenditures and proof thereof and who desires to make application for extension of time under the provisions of the Act of March 28, 1908, should file with the authorizing officer a statement setting forth fully the facts, showing how and why he has been prevented from making final proof of reclamation and cultivation within the regular period. This statement must be corroborated by two witnesses who have personal knowledge of the facts.

§ 2522.5 Act of February 25, 1925.

Applications for further extension of time under the Act of April 30, 1912, and February 25, 1925 (43 Stat. 982; 43 U.S.C. 336), may be made in the same manner, and the same procedure will be followed with respect to such applications as under the Act of March 28, 1908, and the Act of March 4, 1915 (38 Stat. 1161; 43 U.S.C. 335), as amended.

§ 2522.6 Service fees.

All applications for extension of time made under the Acts of March 28, 1908, April 30, 1912, or February 25, 1925, must be accompanied by an application

service fee of \$10 which will not be returnable.

Subpart 2523—Payments

§ 2523.1 Collection of purchase money and fees; issuance of final certificate.

(a) At the time of making final proof the claimant must pay to the authorizing officer the sum of \$1 per acre for each acre of land upon which proof is made. This, together with the 25 cents per acre paid at the time of making the original entry, will amount to \$1.25 per acre, which is the price to be paid for all lands entered under the desert land law.

(b) If the entryman is dead and proof is made by anyone for the heirs, no will being suggested in the record, the final certificate should issue to the heirs generally, without naming them; if by anyone for the heirs or devisees, final certificate should issue in like manner to the heirs or devisees.

(c) When final proof is made on an entry made prior to the Act of March 28, 1908 (35 Stat. 52; 43 U.S.C. 324, 326, 333), for unsurveyed land, if the land is still unsurveyed and such proof is satisfactory, the authorizing officer will approve same without collecting the final payment of \$1 an acre and without issuing final certificate. Fees for reducing the final-proof testimony to writing should be collected and receipt issued therefor if the proof is taken before the authorizing officer. As soon as the plat or plats of any township or townships previously unsurveyed are filed in the proper office the authorizing office will examine his records for the purpose of determining, if possible, whether or not, prior to the passage of the Act of March 28, 1908, any desert-land entry of unsurveyed land was allowed in the locality covered by the said plats; and if any such entries are found intact, he will call upon the claimants thereof to file a statement of adjustment, corroborated by two witnesses, giving the correct description, in accordance with the survey of the lands embraced in their respective entries.

(d) If the final proof has been made upon any desert-land entry so adjusted and the records show that such proof

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has been found satisfactory and no conflicts or other objections are apparent, the manager will allow claimant 60 days within which to make final payment for the land.

[35 FR 9588, June 13, 1970]

§ 2523.2 Amounts to be paid.

No fees or commissions are required of persons making entry under the desert land laws except such fees as are paid to the officers for taking the affidavits and proofs. Unless the entry be perfected under the Act of February 14, 1934 (48 Stat. 349; 43 U.S.C. 339), the only payments made to the Government are the original payment of 25 cents an acre at the time of making the application and the final payment of \$1 an acre, to be paid at the time of making the final proof. On all final proofs made before the authorizing officer, the claimant must pay to the authorizing officer the costs of reducing the testimony to writing, as determined by the authorizing officer. No proof shall be accepted or approved until all charges have been paid.

[35 FR 9588, June 13, 1970]

Subpart 2524—Desert-Land Entries Within a Reclamation Project

AUTHORITY: Sec. 10, 32 Stat. 390; as amended; 43 U.S.C. 373.

SOURCE: 35 FR 9588, June 13, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

§ 2524.1 Conditions excusing entrymen from compliance with the desert-land laws.

(a) By section 5 of the Act of June 27, 1906 (34 Stat. 520, 43 U.S.C. 448), it is provided that any desert-land entryman who has been or may be directly or indirectly hindered or prevented from making improvements on or from reclaiming the lands embraced in his entry, by reason of the fact that such lands have been embraced within the exterior limits of any withdrawal under the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388; 43 U.S.C. 372 *et seq.*) will be excused during the continuance of such hindrance from complying with the provisions of the desert-land laws.

(b) *Persons excused from compliance with the desert-land laws.* Section 5 of

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the Act of June 27, 1906, applies only to persons who have been, directly or indirectly, delayed or prevented, by the creation of any reclamation project, or by any withdrawal of public lands under the reclamation law, from improving or reclaiming the lands covered by their entries.

(c) *Statement required to warrant excuse.* No entryman will be excused under this act from a compliance with all of the requirements of the desert-land law until he has filed in the proper office for the district in which his lands are situated a statement showing in detail all of the facts upon which he claims the right to be excused. This statement must show when the hindrance began, the nature, character, and extent of the same, and it must be corroborated by two disinterested persons, who can testify from their own personal knowledge.

§ 2524.2 Annual proof.

(a) *Extension of time.* Inasmuch as entrymen are allowed 1 year after entry in which to submit the first annual proof of expenditures for the purpose of improving and reclaiming the land entered by them, the privileges of the Act of June 27, 1906, are not necessary in connection with annual proofs until the expiration of the years in which such proofs are due. Therefore, if at the time that annual proof is due it can not be made, on account of hindrance or delay occasioned by a withdrawal of the land for the purpose indicated in the act, the applicant will file his statement explaining the delay. As a rule, however, annual proofs may be made, notwithstanding the withdrawal of the land, because expenditures for various kinds of improvements are allowed as satisfactory annual proofs. Therefore an extension of time for making annual proof will not be granted unless it is made clearly to appear that the entryman has been delayed or prevented by the withdrawal from making the required improvements; and, unless he has been so hindered or prevented from making the required improvements, no application for extension of time for making final proof will be granted until after all the yearly proofs have been made.